

# United Nations

## Daily Highlights

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### W E D N E S D A Y   H I G H L I G H T S

- + International observers in South Africa deplore violence and loss of life in Johannesburg on Monday, saying inadequate planning contributed to tragedy; call on political leaders to find solution to crisis.
- + Secretary-General appoints William Eagleton, United States national, as Special Coordinator for Sarajevo.
- + United Nations launches consolidated inter-agency appeal for \$53.3 million to provide humanitarian aid to Burundi.
- + Speakers in Fifth Committee stress importance of proper funding for International Tribunal on war crimes committed in former Yugoslavia.

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The international observer missions of the United Nations, the Organization of African Unity (OAU), the Commonwealth and the European Union have deplored the violence and loss of life in Johannesburg on Monday, saying the tragedy could have been prevented. The failure to plan adequately for the march that day and to take steps for effective crowd control contributed to the violence, they said.

The missions called for South Africa's political leaders to exercise reason and responsibility and to carry the message of peace and democracy throughout the country. The failure of those leaders and the security forces to act together to prevent a senseless slaughter was inexcusable, they said. The missions also expressed concern over the use of "war talk", threats and challenges, saying such language threatened South Africa's very future.

Violence undermined the work of the Independent Electoral Commission, which was already straining to prepare for next month's elections, the missions went on to say. They called on President F.W. De Klerk, Nelson Mandela and Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi, who were meeting today, to find a way out of the present crisis and to create conditions for a peaceful transition.

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(more)

Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali has decided to appoint William L. Eagleton, a United States national, as the Special Coordinator for Sarajevo. The Security Council, in resolution 900 (1994), recently called for the appointment of a civilian official to draw up an overall assessment and plan of action for the restoration of essential public services in the Bosnian capital.

Prior to his new appointment, Mr. Eagleton was Deputy Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA). He previously served as United States Ambassador to Syria, and as Chief of the United States Interests Section in Baghdad.

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The United Nations today launched a consolidated inter-agency appeal for \$53.3 million to provide humanitarian assistance to Burundi between now and August. More than a million people have been affected by violence, destruction and massive population movements following last year's abortive coup and the assassination of the country's President.

Some 700,000 refugees fled Burundi for the neighbouring countries of Rwanda, Tanzania and Zaire, according to a United Nations spokesman. However, despite outbreaks of violence in the last few days, over 70 per cent of the remaining refugee population and the vast majority of internally displaced persons are expected to return to their homes in the next six months.

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The Fifth Committee (Administrative and Budgetary) met today to discuss the financing of the International Tribunal for the prosecution of war crimes committed in the former Yugoslavia. Commenting on reports of the Secretary-General and of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (ACABQ), the Australian representative urged the General Assembly to formally provide for the apportionment of the Tribunal's expenses. He warned that failure to do so could give the impression that the international community was not committed to the work of the Tribunal.

Sweden, on behalf of the Nordic countries, said it was critically important that the Assembly ensure the functioning of the Tribunal, while the United States and Japan urged that it be funded from the United Nations regular budget.

The ACABQ recommended that the Secretary-General be authorized to enter into further commitments of up to \$11 million through 31 December for the operation of the Tribunal. Such authority would be inclusive of an existing spending authority of \$5.6 million.

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